tional Thermal Power Corporation is setting up three combined cycle gas turbine projects, alongwith the HBJ gas pipeline, at Kawas in Gujarat, Auraiya in Uttar Pradesh, and Anta in Rajasthan. The installed capacity of the project at Kawas and Auraiya is about 600 MW each, while the installed capacity of the Anta project is about 430 MW. The estimated costs of the projects are Rs. 416 crores, 477 crores and Rs 320 crores respectively.

Generation of hydro-electricity in Himachal Pradesh

705. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the vast scope for the generation of hydro-electricity in Himachal Pradesh, the Central Government will provide financial help to the Government of Himachal Pradesh for the production of Electricity to be supplied to entire North India; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) and (b) In addition to the Baira Siul hydro-electric project (180 MW) and the Chamera hydro-electric (540 MW) which are under operation/execution in Himachal Pradesh in the Central sector, it is proposed to execute the Nathpa Jhakri hydro-electric project (1500 MW) as a joint venture between Governments of India and Himachal Pradesh with shares in investment in the ratio 75:25 respectively. While the Nathpa Jhakri hydro-electric project has already been posed for World Bank assistance, external assistance for some more hydro-electric projects of Himachal Pradesh is under consideration.

Scandals in DESU relating to purchase of sub-standard medicines

706. SHRI CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in 'Jan Satta' of 26th April, 1986, 16th June, 1986 and 20th June, 1986 regarding the purchase of sub-standard medicines and other scandals prevailing in DESU;

(b) if so, whether Government have ordered any inquiry against the officers involved in the purchases and also against the Vigilance Officers and other Senior Officers who have given shelter to the guilty officers; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The case regarding alleged purchase of sub-standard medicines is presently under examination of CBI.

DESU is investigating the case of alleged short supply of cotton mentioned in one of the news items referred to in part (a) of the Question.

Natural Gas Grid

707. SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 52 given in Rajya Sabha on the 18th November, 1985, and state what is the present position in regard to the setting up of a National Gas Grid for effectively utilising the gas resources in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): The national gas-grid is part of a long term perspective plan for the development and utilisation of natural gas. Its implementation will depend on the establishment of adequate reserves of gas and availability of financial resources for its production and utilisation. Exploration is under way for discovering oil and gas reserves.

Surplus labour in Coal Industry

708. SHRI J. P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether, as reported in the 'Hindustan Times' dated 8th July, 1986, a section of the workers in the nationalised Coal Industry is likely to be declared surplus;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) what are the reasons leading to such a decision?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) to (c) No decision has been taken by Coal India Ltd. to declare any section of its workers as surplus.

Indo-UAE Cable Project

709. SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL:
SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANICKER:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to set up an Indo-UAE Cable project; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A project for the establishment of a wide-band submarine telephone cable link between Bombay (India) and Fujairah in United Arab Emirates has been approved. The cable will have an approximate length of 1969 KM and is planned to have a capacity of about 1380 voice grade channels for telephony, telex, voice band data, facsimile services etc. The cable link will be owned in equal proportions by the Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited of India and the Emirates Telecommunications Corporation Limited of UAE. The link is expected to be ready for service by end-August, 1987.

710. [*Transferred to the 5th August 1986*].

Action against misleading advertisements by Pharmaceutical Companies

711. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:
SHRI D. B. CHANDRA GOWDA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Director General of Investigation and Registration, Department of Company Affairs of the Ministry of Industry has approached the MRTPC for grant of temporary injunction against 'misleading advertisements' being issued by Pharmaceutical companies to promote the sale of their products;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what are the names of such pharmaceutical companies and what are the names of the products involved; and

(d) what are the details regarding the other action being taken by the Government against such pharmaceutical companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.